



City of Whittier

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Joe Vinatieri
Mayor

Henry Bouchot
Mayor Pro Tem

Cathy Warner
Council Member

Jessica Martinez
Council Member

Fernando Dutra
Council Member

Brian Saeki
City Manager

November 13, 2020

The Honorable Rex Richardson
President, Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90017

SUBJECT: City of Whittier Support to Convene a Special Closed Meeting of the SCAG Regional Council to Discuss the Recommendations of the RHNA Litigation Committee

Dear President Richardson:

I have been monitoring the information and discussions that have been raised regarding whether the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) followed housing law in issuing a housing need of 1.34 million units to the SCAG region. SCAG's own staff raised this issue in its September 18, 2019 objection letter to HCD, and led to the establishment of a SCAG RHNA Litigation Committee in late 2019. At that time, it was reported that no litigation would be pursued.

However, I understand that a November 2, 2020 meeting of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Committee was convened to continue discussions on the issue. It was reported at the November 4, 2020 SCAG Executive/Administration Committee meeting and the November 5, 2020 SCAG Regional Council meeting that the general consensus of the RHNA Litigation Committee was that SCAG not pursue any litigation actions against HCD.

At the November 5, 2020 Regional Council meeting, two Regional Council members asked if a special closed session of the SCAG Regional Council could be scheduled to further discuss the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Committee and receive the information that was presented to the RHNA Litigation Committee. You responded that you needed to hear from a cross-section of members and to be respectful of all viewpoints, to see if there are any concerns with the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Committee.

The City of Whittier is responding to your outreach and is supportive of the request to conduct a special closed session meeting of the SCAG Regional Council to discuss the RHNA Litigation Committee's

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recommendation. As a SCAG member jurisdiction, this discussion has direct relevance to our city and our RHNA allocation, and merits the additional consideration and recommendation of the Regional Council. We ask that this special meeting can be convened immediately.

Sincerely,



Joe Vinatieri
Mayor

cc: Kome Ajise, SCAG Executive Director
SCAG RC District 31 Representative De Ruse
Gateway Cities Council of Governments